

CLAIMS

1. A process for the production of water-containing pastes of alkyl and/or alkenyl oligoglycoside carboxylic acid salts with a reduced content of organochlorine compounds, characterized in that the alkyl and/or alkenyl oligoglycosides are reacted in known manner with halocarboxylic acids or salts thereof and the reaction products are subjected to an alkaline aftertreatment at temperatures in the range from 50 to 120°C.

2. A process as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that alkyl and/or alkenyl oligoglycosides corresponding to formula (I):

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where R¹ is an alkyl and/or alkenyl group containing 4 to 22 carbon atoms, G is a sugar unit containing 5 or 6 carbon atoms and p is a number of 1 to 10, are used.

3. A process as claimed in claim(s) 1 and/or 2, characterized in that alkyl glucosides corresponding to formula (I), in which R¹ is a C₁₂₋₁₈ alkyl group, G is a glucose unit and p is a number of 1 to 1.8, are used.

4. A process as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that halocarboxylic acids or salts thereof corresponding to formula (II):



in which n is a number of 1 to 5 and X is hydrogen or an alkali metal, are used.

5. A process as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that chloroacetic acid or its sodium salt is used as the alkylating agent.

6. A process as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the alkyl and/or alkenyl oligoglycosides and the halocarboxylic acids

or their salts are used in a molar ratio of 1:0.9 to 1:5.

7. A process as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that water-containing pastes of alkyl and/or alkenyl oligoglycoside carboxylic acid salts with a solids content of 30 to 60% by weight are used.

5 8. A process as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the water-containing pastes are adjusted to a pH of 10 to 14 by addition of aqueous alkali metal compounds.

9. A process as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the water-containing pastes are aftertreated at a temperature of 70
10 to 90°C.

10. A process as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that the water-containing pastes are treated until the content of monochlorine compounds has fallen to below 5 ppm and the content of dichlorine compounds is below 30 ppm.